

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 216249  
ORIGIN AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05  
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15  
STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01  
SIG-01 /101 R

DRAFTED BY USDA:RSCHROETER:STMCP  
APPROVED BY EB/OT/TA:DJDUNFORD  
USDA:GESINDELAR  
USDA:RFITZSIMMOND  
USDA:VSORENSEN  
STR:TREGAN  
EB/OT/TA:DRPATTERSON

-----043833 100751Z /13

R 091758Z SEP 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 216249

USMTN ALSO FOR MISSION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, EC  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 216249

SUBJECT: EC BARRIERS TO IMPORTS OF APPLES, PEARS, AND  
DRIED PRUNES

REF: BONN 14189 (NOTAL)

1. AS A RESULT OF VERY UNFAVORABLE WEATHER DURING THE

BLOOM AND POST-BLOOM PERIOD, EC APPLE HARVEST PROBABLY WILL BE THE SMALLEST SINCE 1964. PRODUCTION IS CURRENTLY ESTIMATED A 5.2 MILLION METRIC TONS, 20 PERCENT BELOW LAST YEAR'S CROP AND 22 PERCENT BELOW 1972-76 AVERAGE. EC PEAR PRODUCTION, AT 2.0 MILLION TONS (MID-AUGUST ESTIMATE), IS THE SMALLEST SINCE 1963 AND MORE THAN 20 PERCENT BELOW THE 1976 CROP AND THE 1972-76 AVERAGE. MOREOVER, PRODUCTION OF DRIED PRUNES IN FRANCE FOR 1977 IS CURRENTLY ESTIMATED AT ONLY 6,000 TONS COMPARED TO 24,000 TONS PRODUCED IN 1976. RECENT TRADE REPORTS SUGGEST 1977 OUTTURN MAY FALL EVEN FURTHER BECAUSE OF DAMAGING RAINS.

2. WHILE EC PRODUCTION OF APPLES, PEARS, AND DRIED PRUNES IS VERY LOW THIS YEAR, THE U.S. HAS AMPLE SUPPLIES AVAILABLE. THE COMMERCIAL APPLE CROP, NOW ESTIMATED AT 3.1 MILLION METRIC TONS, IS THE SECOND LARGEST OF RECENT

RECORD AND THE 1977 WINTER PEAR CROP (149,000 TONS) IS EXPECTED TO BE THE SECOND LARGEST OF THE FIVE MOST RECENT SEASONS. THE 1977 PRODUCTION OF CALIFORNIA DRIED PRUNES IS CURRENTLY FORECAST AT 137,890 METRIC TONS, 5 PERCENT ABOVE THE 1976 OUTPUT AND 2 PERCENT LARGER THAN THAT OF 1975.

3. IN VIEW OF THE LIGHT EC HARVESTS AND ABOVE NORMAL U.S. CROPS, WE ANTICIPATE THAT THE EC IMPORTING TRADE WILL REQUEST MEMBER STATE GOVERNMENTS OR THE EC COMMISSION TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 216249

TEMPORARILY SUSPEND IMPORT DUTIES OF 16 PERCENT FOR PRUNES, 14 PERCENT FOR APPLES UNTIL DECEMBER 31, AND 10 PERCENT FOR PEARS UNTIL MARCH 31. ACCORDING TO REFTTEL, GERMAN IMPORTERS ALSO PLAN TO REQUEST POSTPONEMENT IN APPLICATION OF IMPORT LICENSING SYSTEM FOR PRUNES, SCHEDULED TO BECOME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1978.

4. ACTION ADDRESSES SHOULD BE ALERT, AND GIVE FULL SUPPORT, TO LOCAL TRADE EFFORTS TO OBTAIN DUTY SUSPENSIONS AND POSTPONEMENT OF PRUNE IMPORT LICENSING. YOU SHOULD TAKE INITIATIVE WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS IF INFORMATION LACKING ON IMPORTER INTENTIONS, EMPHASIZING BENEFITS TO CONSUMERS OF RELAXATION OF TRADE RESTRAINTS IN FACE OF BELOW NORMAL EC SUPPLIES AND RISING PRICES.

5. ACTION EC BRUSSELS. MISSION IS REQUESTED TO INFORM COMMISSION OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR TEMPORARY SUSPENSIONS OF DUTIES FOR APPLES, PEARS, AND DRIED PRUNES. YOU SHOULD ALSO REQUEST POSTPONEMENT OF APPLICATION OF PRUNE LICENSING SYSTEM BECAUSE OF THE SHORT FRENCH CROP.

6. INFO ALL POSTS. A GATT PANEL WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1976

TO EXAMINE U.S. COMPLAINT THAT EC IMPORT LICENSING SYSTEM  
FOR DRIED PRUNES AND CERTAIN OTHER PROCESSED FRUITS AND  
VEGETABLES, AND MINIMUM IMPORT PRICE FOR TOMATO CONCENTRATES,  
ARE INCONSISTENT WITH EC'S GATT OBLIGATIONS. TWO MEMBERS  
OF FIVE MEMBER PANEL WERE RECALLED BY THEIR GOVERNMENTS  
FOR OTHER DUTIES BEFORE PANEL COULD REACH CONCLUSIONS.  
EFFORTS ARE NOW UNDERWAY TO FILL THE TWO VACANCIES ON THE  
PANEL. ADDRESSEES SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE THAT HOUSE WAYS  
AND MEANS TRADE SUBCOMMITTEE IS HOLDING HEARINGS SEPTEMBER  
12 ON HOUSE RESOLUTIONS 238 AND 320 WHICH EXPRESS THE  
SENSE OF THE HOUSE WITH RESPECT TO EC REGULATIONS ON DRIED  
PRUNES AND TO EFFORTS MADE TO RESTRICT EC IMPORTS OF WALNUTS.  
TEXT OF RESOLUTIONS BEING POUCHED. VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FRUIT, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, IMPORT CONTROLS, APPLES, PEARS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE216249  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RSCHROETER:STMCP  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770328-0637  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770979/aaaacpel.tel  
**Line Count:** 128  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** eb070e49-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN AGRE  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 BONN 14189  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1325032  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EC BARRIERS TO IMPORTS OF APPLES, PEARS, AND DRIED PRUNES  
**TAGS:** EAGR, ETRD, EEC  
**To:** BONN BRUSSELS MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/eb070e49-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009